



Community
Alliance with
Family
Farmers

—RS
files

MAY 07 1997

5/2/97

Lester Snow
CalFed Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Lester,

Thank you for meeting with Adrienne Alvord and I last week. I am hopeful that facilitated discussions through the forum of a BDAC work group will result in some constructive policy recommendations on water transfers. Previous public discussions on the subject have never aired rural community concerns about adverse impacts of an unregulated market. I believe that if these concerns are considered, the end result will be better for the entire state.

I have been talking to people about invited participants for the work group, keeping in mind your caution about the need to bring in people representing networks. I have the following suggestions:

Linda Cole, farmer and director of Valley Water Protection Association. VWPA is a membership group representing agricultural and environmental interests in the Butte County area and acting as an advocate for sustainable use of groundwater. Her story of some of the impacts of the Drought Water Bank in Butte County needs to be more fully aired if we are to avoid mistakes of the past.

Betsy Marchand, 24 years on the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, now retired and working for the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. Betsy was an active critic of the Drought Water Bank and understands rural community issues well. She is well known and well connected!

Charles Willard, member of the Tehama County Board of Supervisors, Chair of the Committee for Agriculture and Natural Resources, active with RCRC and the Northern Sacramento Valley CalFed Advisory Group. You saw him in action as Chair of the 5/1/97 meeting in Corning.

P.O. Box 363 Davis, CA 95617
ph: 916/756-8518 fax: 916/756-7857 e-mail: caff@caff.org www.caff.org

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I think it might also be interesting to get a viewpoint from some of the low-income residents of the west side of the San Joaquin Valley. For example, I think Ed Petrie speaks for this constituency. I am making some calls with this in mind and will let you know if I come up with any recommendations.

I have also asked around regarding the question of a Chair for the Work Group. I thought I would pass on the recommendation of Roberta Borgonovo, a name that came up several times.

I can make phone numbers or addresses for any of these folks available if needed. A message at the CAFF number will reach me, although I am more often at the farm these days: 916-796-2214.

Sincerely,

Judith Redmond
Judith Redmond
Director Emeritus

cc: Michael Heaton



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